

examples and one young bird, and Mr. W. C. Tait had given Mr. Witherby a specimen, also exhibited, from Caldas de Gerez, Portugal. All three specimens closely resembled the single bird in the Tring Museum. They were exceedingly like the British Nuthatch (*S. e. britannica*) in colouring and were greyer on the upperparts and less buff on the underparts than *S. e. casia*. The bill in all was decidedly shorter and blunter, and slightly thicker than that of *S. e. casia* or *S. e. britannica*, measuring in all three specimens 12 mm. from the nostril to the tip, as against 14–15 mm. in *S. e. britannica*.

Mr. A. B. PERCIVAL forwarded the description of a new species of Crimson-wing from Mount Urguess, north of Guasso Nyiro, which he proposed to name

CRYPTOSPIZA BOREALIS, sp. n.

*Adult male*. Most nearly allied to *C. australis*, Shelley, from the Nyasa Plateau, but with the general colour of the breast and belly much paler, of a light smoky olive-brown tint. As in *C. australis*, the crimson of the upperparts is of a rather dull shade and confined to the lower back, rump, upper tail-coverts, and outer webs of the innermost secondaries and scapulars. Iris dark hazel; bill dark horn-colour; feet light horn-colour. Wing 2·3 inches.

*Adult female*. Does not differ from the male (if the sex has been correctly determined by the native collector); it has no trace of a buff patch on the lores and round the eye, a character well developed in the allied *C. ocularis*, Sharpe.

*Hab.* Mount Urguess, 7000 ft., north of Guasso Nyiro.

Types in the British Museum: ♂ ♀. 25.viii.11. Presented by A. B. Percival, Esq.

*Obs.* *C. salvadorii*, Reich., is easily distinguished from the above by its uniform bright crimson back and still paler underparts; as in the present species, the female resembles the male and has no buff spot in front of the eye.